

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00

CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04 OIC-02 OES-03 NASA-01 CCO-00

OTPE-00 FCC-01 OC-05 USIA-06 BIB-01 L-03 /093 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3664

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, IMCO

SUBJ: INMARSAT - ISWG MEETING

REF: LONDON 12214

1. WORKING PARTY OF ISWG AGREED DELETE SECOND PARA PREAMBLE OPERATING AGREEMENT. WP SPENT REST OF DAY DEBATING COUNCIL-FUNCTIONS. EUROPEANS INTRODUCED RE-WORKED VERSION OF POE LANGUAGE WHICH MOVES SOMEWHAT IN DIRECTION ULS DRAFT. US SUGGESTED BETTER TO DISCUSS ON BASIS OF LONGER US DRAFT. MOST DELEGATIONS THAT INTERVENED, SPOKE IN FAVOR OF US DRAFT AS BASIS OF WORK. EUROPEANS, IN PARTICULAR UK, DID NOT AGREE. WE THEN ATTEMPTED COMPARE TESTS BUT LITTLE PROGRESS MADE. SOME AGREEMENT SEEMED TO DEVELOP THAT CHAPEAU OF US TEST NEEDED.

2. WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED (BOUSSE, BELGIUM CHAIRMAN) TO EXAMINE PARA TWO PROCUREMENT TEXT AFTER US REP STATED PARA ONE AS PUT FORWARD BY EUROPEANS WAS ACCEPTABLE TO US AS PART OF BROADER ARRANGEMENT COVERING A NUMBER OF

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ELEMENTS TO WHICH THE ISWG HAD ALREADY GIVEN EFFECT. WG

HAD POE TEXT, US TEXT (MARSAT CONF 5/4), AND UK TEXT
SUBMITTED JUST PRIOR TO CREATION OF WG.

3. UK CONTRIBUTION PROPOSED TO INTRODUCE FOLLOWING CLAUSE
IN PARAGRAPH HEADING: "PROVIDED THAT THE AWARD OF THE
CONTRACT WILL NOT GIVE THE CONTRACTOR AN UNFAIR AD-
VANTAGE WHEN TENDERING FOR FURTHER INMARSAT CONTRACTS",
AND ADD FOLLOWING PHRASE IN PARA 2 (2): "THE CONTRACT IS
NOT FOR WORK OF SIGNIFICANT TECHNOLOGICAL INTEREST".

4. US REP OPPOSED BOTH PROPOSALS AS VAGUELY WORDED, AND
THEREFORE SUSCEPTIBLE OF BEING INTERPRETED AS GOING BEYOND
THE PROCUREMENT POLICY SET OUT IN PARA ONE, I.E., "TO
ENCOURAGE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE ORGANIZATION, WORLDWIDE
COMPETITION IN THE SUPPLY OF GOODS AND SERVICES". US REP
PROPOSED (1) SEVERAL ALTERNATIVES INTENDED TO PLACE
BURDEN ON COUNCIL TO AWARD CONTRACTS UNDER THE EXCEPTION-
AL CIRCUMSTANCES COVERED BY PARA TWO SO AS NOT TO PRECLUDE
ITS EFFECTING EXERCISES AT A LATER DATE OF THE PROCURE-
MENT POLICY, AND (2) ALTERNATIVELY DELETION OF 2(A)
ENTIRELY, THEREBY FORCING OPEN INTERNATIONAL TENDERING
FOR ALL CONTRACTS (EXCEPT THOSE LISTED IN WWKB) - (F)).
LATTER ALTERNATIVE ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE COSTLY AND IN-
EFFICIENT IN SOME CASES.

5. THERE WAS STRONG SUPPORT FOR UK FROM FRG AND FRANCE;
STRONG SUPPORT FOR US FROM USSR AND CANADA; AND MODEST
SUPPORT FOR US FROM BELGIUM AND ITALY. DISCUSSION WILL
CONTINUE MORNING AUG 8 WITH LIKELY OUTCOME OF BRACKETED
TEXT, SINCE AN ADDITION TO PARA 2(A) THERE ARE OTHER
DIFFERENCES IN THESE TEXTS.

6. SOVIETS HAVE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT ALL US POSITIONS
THEREBY STRENGTHENING OPINION US DEL THAT SOVIETS
BELIEVE AGREEMENT WITH US IS MOST PRACTICABLE MEANS TO
ACHIEVE EXPEDITIOUS REALIZATION OF INMARSAT. AT US DEL
RECEPTION FOR SOVIETS, ATSEROV AND KOLODKIN ASKED US TO
CONSIDER USEFULNESS OF SOVIETS PREPARING FULL TEXT,
PRIMARILY WITHOUT ALTERNATIVES OR BRACKETED LANGUAGE, OF
CONVENTION AND OPERATING AGREEMENT WHICH THEY WOULD
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SUBMIT TO US FOR CONSIDERATION. THEY SAID THEY WOULD
HOPE ULTIMATELY, AFTER CONSULTATION AND RESOLUTION OF
DIFFERENCES, TO BE ABLE TO SUBMIT JOINT US-USSR TEXT TO
NEXT ISWG. SOVIETS HAVE IN MIND TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR TEXT
FROM SOCIALIST BLOC AND CERTAIN LAC'S. SOVIETS DID NOT
PRESS FOR IMMEDIATE ANSWER AND US REP SAID WE WOULD
RESPOND THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

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